Application No.: 10/700,092 Docket No.: 04995/125001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 1. (Original) An image processing apparatus comprising:
 - an image input unit configured to be input a first image; a color setting unit configured to set an adjustment value of a color attribute of a second image from a reference color attribute;
 - a color adjustment excluded area setting unit configured to set an excluded area in which a color adjustment for the second image is excluded;
 - a composite image producing unit configured to adjust the color attribute of the second image in accordance with the adjustment value except for the excluded area, and to produce a composite image by superposing the adjusted second image onto the first image; and
 - an image output unit configured to selectively output the first image and the composite image,
 - wherein the composite image producing unit adjusts brightness and transparency of the second image within a range between a predetermined range, and
 - wherein the composite image producing unit adjusts, in a case where a difference in contrast between character included in the second image and an area of the first image where the character is to be superposed is less than a predetermined level, the color attribute of the character so that the contrast of the character reaches the predetermined level.
- 2. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
 - an image input unit configured to be input a first image; a color setting unit configured to set an adjustment value of a color attribute of a second image from a reference color attribute;
 - a composite image producing unit configured to adjust the color attribute of the second image in accordance with the adjustment value, and to produce a composite image by superposing the second image onto the first image; and
 - an image output unit configured to selectively output the first image and the composite image,

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wherein the composite image producing unit adjusts, in a case where a difference in contrast between character included in the second image and an area of the first image where the character is to be superposed is less than a predetermined level, the color attribute of the character so that the contrast of the character reaches the predetermined level.

- 3. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the composite image producing unit adjusts brightness and transparency of the second image within a range between a predetermined range.
- 4. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a color adjustment excluded area setting unit configured to set an excluded area in which a color adjustment for the second image is excluded, wherein the composite image producing unit adjusts the color attribute of the second image except for the excluded area.

5. (Cancelled)

- 6. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a receiving unit configured to receive a program in which broadcasted in a selected channel, and to output a video image of the program to the input unit as the first image.
- 7. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2 further comprising an image producing unit configured to produce the second image.
- 8. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second image comprises information to configure operation settings.
- 9. (Original) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second image comprises information indicating operation status.

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